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Monday, October 18, 2004

Conestoga College, Kitchener

36th Year — No. 20

College embraces new logo

By DESIREE FINHERT

It's out with the old and in with the new at Conestoga College. After 15 years of donning the blue and red shield, the college has a new logo to go with its new image.

Conestoga College president, John Tibbits, said the college wanted a new logo to reflect the change in the school.

"The college is transforming itself into a polytechnic college," said Tibbits. "A lot of people thought it was time for a crisper logo."

The board of governors wanted a sophisticated tag line and logo, which would reflect the college as an institute of technology and advanced learning (ITAL) and its status as Ontario's No. 1 college for the last six years.

The giant letter C sectioned into three pieces looks like an Arabian crescent moon with italicized accents rounding out the image. The words "Conestoga, connect life and learning," are paired with the single letter.

The college enlisted Quarry Integrated Communications, in Waterloo, to help with the process.

The 30-year-old Canadian-owned company, located in Allen Square, on King Street, is also responsible for the logos of Research in Motion, Sprint Canada Inc., United Way, FedEx and Nortel Networks.

Director of the president's office and corporate secretary, Helena Webb, acted as the liaison between the president, the board, senior management, students and Quarry.

Webb aided Quarry in researching the new tag line and logo, which was created after extensive input from full- and part-time student surveys and alumni at each of the campuses. The creative team also included several of Conestoga's graphic design graduates.

"The work on the logo was fun, but also a big responsibility," said

Webb, who wanted to create something easily recognizable and acceptable to everyone in the college community.

After four months on the project, Webb said the new logo looks classy.

"It's the kind of logo that will last," she said, adding it wears well on clothes for staff and students. "It won't date itself for a long time, which was one of our stipulations."

Manager of public relations, John Sawicki, was involved early in the process and said it will take a while for the single C to be recognized as Conestoga.

"It's simple, but bold," said Sawicki. "I think it's an excellent branding tool that will become associated with the college."

The single C which is commonly reproduced in gold, is also available in black, blue or red. It is already being used on letterhead, envelopes, business cards and college publications, like the student guide.

"Eventually, you will see it replace all of the existing applications of the current logo," said Sawicki.

He said it will take a year to 15 months before the transition is complete. "People should give time for the transition to take place. It's not an overnight process."

The college has not changed the signs inside or outside any of the college's four campuses.

"However, they will have to be replaced within a year or so, or there's no point in having a new logo," said Webb.

She said the college is being prudent about these replacements because of its deficit. Several cuts to the college budget have been made to decrease the deficit including cutting class hours, delaying program starts and not renewing part-time teaching contracts.

The college is asking staff and students to use up old stationary before requesting stock with the new look.



(Photo by Janet Morris)

Enjoying the fall colours

Andre Nguyen and Laura Schnarr, second-year business management students, get distracted by the fall leaves while studying outside the E-wing on Oct. 1.

CSI helps students travel abroad

By JENNIFER HOWDEN

Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI) is making it easier and safer for students to travel abroad.

On Oct. 25, International Student Exchange (ISE) cards will be available in the CSI offices for just \$10.

The ISE card is an international ID that is recognized worldwide. It is currently issued in more than 50 countries around the world.

There are three versions of the ISE card. The first is for faculty, the second is for students of any age and the third is for youths between the ages of 12 and 26.

"The card offers discounts and deals as well as safety benefits so when students go out of the country they are more prepared and I think that's great," said Judy Dusick, CSI general manager.

The card was created as a way to help those who travel save money. Cardholders receive discounted rates at international locations just by showing their cards.

Discounts include 10 to 50 per

cent off of entrance fees to museums, castles and palaces. Discounts are also offered by hotels, theatres, restaurants, shops, vehicle rental agencies and transportation companies. Discounted tickets are available to concerts, operas and adventure experiences.

ISE guarantees all of its discounts. If a cardholder does not receive a discount on a location listed on the website they will receive double their money back.

For a list of discounted locations visit the ISE website at www.ise-card.ca

The ISE card also comes with many benefits.

Cardholders receive \$2,000 US in basic medical coverage from Worldwide Assistance. They also receive up to \$5,000 US in evacuation coverage in case they get stranded and need to be rescued and they receive \$2,000 US in airline bankruptcy protection in the event that an airline goes bankrupt and the cardholder is left stranded.

There is also a toll-free emer-

gency hotline that can be accessed 24 hours a day and can be called from anywhere in the world. The hotline number is found on the back of each ISE card and 24 different languages are spoken by the Worldwide Assistance representatives. The hotline can be used for travel assistance needs as well as medical and legal emergencies.

Any student who is interested in the ISE card can go down to the CSI office and purchase one.

"They just have to come here and present their student card and \$10 and we do the rest," said Dusick. "We take their picture and present them with their cards on the spot. Now that's service."

Each ISE card is valid for one full year from the date of purchase. All ISE cards must be activated in order to be valid. Cardholders can go to www.ise-card.ca to activate their cards. Cardholders who have not activated their card may not be able to receive all of the benefits that come with the ISE card.



CONESTOGA

Connect Life and Learning

Now deep thoughts ...with Conestoga College

Random questions answered by random students

What movie best describes
your life right now?



"Zombie, because everything's kind of crazy right now and I just can't get the blood-stains out of my clothing."

Brett Bakker, second-year graphic design

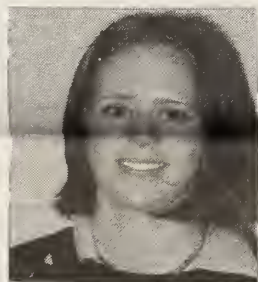
"The Notebook, because I'm very indecisive and live by the motto: never burn your bridges."

Liz Callaghan, first-year nursing



"Chasing Liberty, because I'm trying to find where I fit in society and what my next goal is."

Mandy Goemans, first-year human services foundation



"How High, because the two characters go to college and succeed and I think that's what is going to happen to me."

Nikita Karamishev, first-year electronic engineer technician



"Erin Brockovich, because I'm trying to balance kids, school, homework and commuting from Stratford everyday."

Sherri Moore, first-year human services foundation

"Fast Times at Ridgemont High, because I'm cool enough to be like Sean Penn."

Craig Needles, second-year broadcasting



Smile Conestoga, you could be our next respondent!

'Sex-pert' gears students up for sex

Josey Vogels also dispels many myths

By ALEXANDRA MASTRONARDI

After two bees have intercourse the male bee's genitals fall off and he bleeds to death.

That is just one of the many sex tidbits offered by sex-columnist Josey Vogels.

More than 40 students gathered in the Sanctuary on Oct. 5 for sex advice and myth busters from the "sex-pert."

Vogels has been writing about sex issues since she started a sex column back in 1994.

The sex-pert said her background is in journalism and she was working for a newspaper when she was asked to come up with a weekly column.

"I liked the idea of writing about sex because I had been writing about women's issues and to me sex was like a frontier that wasn't really being explored," she said.

"Even though we were talking about feminism and equality we weren't talking about sex and I felt that was a big lack."

It is very important to talk to students about sex because they are at an age where they are building a foundation in terms of who they are sexually, said Vogels.

"I tend to try and challenge people's belief system and some of the myths around sex. I think it's important to do that at a young age," she said.

Vogels currently holds the record for Canada's top masturbator, giving herself nine orgasms over six hours. The masturbating event was

held to raise money for breast cancer.

Vogels said she enjoys all the different aspects of her job.

"My favourite part is all the free sex toys," she said.

"I also enjoy writing but it's a solo, behind-the-scenes activity. I love going out and meeting people and talking to students and I'm lucky because I get to do all of that."

"Conestoga's a tough crowd because people sitting in couches are a bit too laid back."

*Josey Vogels,
sex columnist*

Vogels said her best shows are the ones where she has a real interaction with the crowd because when the crowd is into the show and excited it's a good time.

"Conestoga's a tough crowd because people sitting in couches are a bit too laid back and it's easy for them to just sit there and not get involved," she said.

"I think my presentation is really important and it's integral to have that audience participation."

The show began with a contest where students from the audience were selected to go on stage and blow up a condom until it popped. The winner of the contest received a how-to guide on dating.

Vogels presented a slide show

outlining how to practise safe sex, sex tips and revealing the truth about popular sex rumours.

Vogels made a point of clarifying one rumour.

"Male ejaculation does not clear up your skin girls."

Towards the end of the show Vogels had students volunteer to come on stage for another contest. The volunteers had to put a condom on a cucumber with their mouth.

The first to successfully put it on received a copy of Vogels book *She Comes First*.

Vogels said the most important thing is to "Know thy self."

"It seems really simple and common sense but I think when it comes to sex, know your limits and know your body so you can communicate it to others," she said.

"It's amazing how many of us just don't even let ourselves explore."

Connie Vanderknyff, 19, a nursing student, said she thought Vogels was hilarious and had an awesome time watching her show.

"I learned that there is so many different kinds of dildos out there and not every one works the same for every person, you have to find one that is right for you, but my mother would never approve," she said.

Those interested in learning more about Josey Vogels or her advice on sex can visit www.joseyvogels.com or purchase one of her several books.



(Photo by Jennifer Howden)

In the spirit of giving

Moore Pathammavong, a customer service representative at student residence, shows off some of the food collected for the Waterloo regional food bank. At least four bins of food were collected.

Cambridge campus gets stuffed

Students socialize and make new friends at Thanksgiving luncheon

By DENISE MULLER

The Conestoga College Cambridge campus once again offered a Thanksgiving luncheon for its students to socialize and to get to know each other.

This year the Cambridge campus held the potluck Thanksgiving-style lunch for the students Oct. 8.

There was a sign-up sheet in the campus's lunchroom, for students to write down their names and what they wanted to contribute to the luncheon, said Susan Garlick, programs co-ordinator.

"It's one way for students to socialize with one another on campus."

She said the students decide when to have the luncheons, adding they have them at Christmas and throughout the year. The number of luncheons varies from year to year.

At 11:30 a.m., women from the Focus for Change program started to flow into the lunchroom, unwrapping and heating up the dishes they brought for the luncheon, filling the room with those familiar Thanksgiving smells.

The Focus for Change program is

geared towards women over the age of 19 who are unemployed. It helps women develop not only themselves, but also gives them career training.

Soon the tables were covered with mashed and scalloped potatoes, cooked vegetables, buns and croissants, cheese and margarine, gravy and cranberry sauce and, of course, the crispy, brown turkey. The top of another table disappeared under all the desserts.

"It's one way for students to socialize with one another on campus."

*Susan Garlick,
programs co-ordinator*

By noon, everything was ready and the dishes and cutlery were waiting to be used. More students started to file into the little lunchroom.

A Focus for Change student said the students are allowed to go home after they are done with lunch and everything is cleaned up. She said it's a special day for the students.

"I think it's cool because everyone brought something," said Charlene Westover, 22. "I'm excited to have someone try my (scallop) potatoes."

She said that her class has already planned the next luncheon.

Another Focus for Change student said it's a nice way to get everyone together.

"It's a good idea, everyone's here working together," said Bernadette Maj.

The 36-year-old said it's a nice break and the Focus for Change group is a nice bunch of women.

"For a lot of us, it's a big challenge to be here everyday," she said.

Maj said she moved to Cambridge from Toronto three months ago. She said she was glad someone mentioned the program to her, because Cambridge was a new city and she didn't know what to do.

Maj said the students want to do a cultural theme for their Christmas luncheon. She said she is already looking forward to bringing perogies.

When asked how the food was, the unanimous answer from everyone was, "Awesome!"



(Photo by Denise Muller)

Students at Conestoga College's Cambridge campus enjoy an early Thanksgiving luncheon at the campus on Oct. 8.

Survivor Conestoga creates a buzz

By PAIGE HILTON

Students at Survivor Conestoga did not have to compete for immunity, sit through gruelling tribal councils or scrounge for food and water.

The jungle-themed workshop taught seven groups of eight to 10 students about the rec centre, abuse and safe relationships, banking, sexual health, boundaries, security services and substance abuse.

It was held Oct. 7 in the blue room for international students adjusting to life in Canada.

One English language studies student from Bosnia said she had fun at the workshop and the session about abuse stood out.

"It's a little bit different than my country," Maja Kljucic said. "Nobody can touch you or hit you, so you can just go to the police and tell them, so that's good."

Kljucic said she also appreciated the information presented by secu-

rity services because she now knows she is secure at school day and night.

Another student from English language studies who has been here for only three weeks said he plans to use the rec centre for body building, but also found out some bad news about tennis.

"I heard that the gym is free," said Aryan Ghassemi. "I wanted to ask them if there was any place that we could play tennis, and now I know that there is no place that we can play."

Despite not having a tennis court, Ghassemi said he was still looking forward to using the rec centre and said he enjoyed the workshop.

The event was a team effort by staff in the international office, Student Services and English language studies.

Faculty and staff hoped the workshop would provide students with valuable information about living in Canada and what is OK here compared to what may be acceptable or not acceptable in their own culture.

It was also an opportunity for students to meet faculty and staff at the college who they may not meet otherwise, like counsellors and the people who work in security.

Students were taught how to write cheques and open Canadian bank accounts by a Canada Trust representative.

Counsellors put on short skits to teach students about abusive situations, students played a quiz game to learn facts about drug and alcohol abuse, and were even given a quick aerobic workout at the station focused on the rec centre.

Melanie Reed, co-ordinator of English language studies and master of ceremonies for the workshop, said she was pleased with the positive outcome and found the students got a lot out of each session.

"We had the addition this year, for the first time, from the rec centre, and that worked out really well because I think people needed to get up and move a bit after they'd been in four or five sessions," she said.

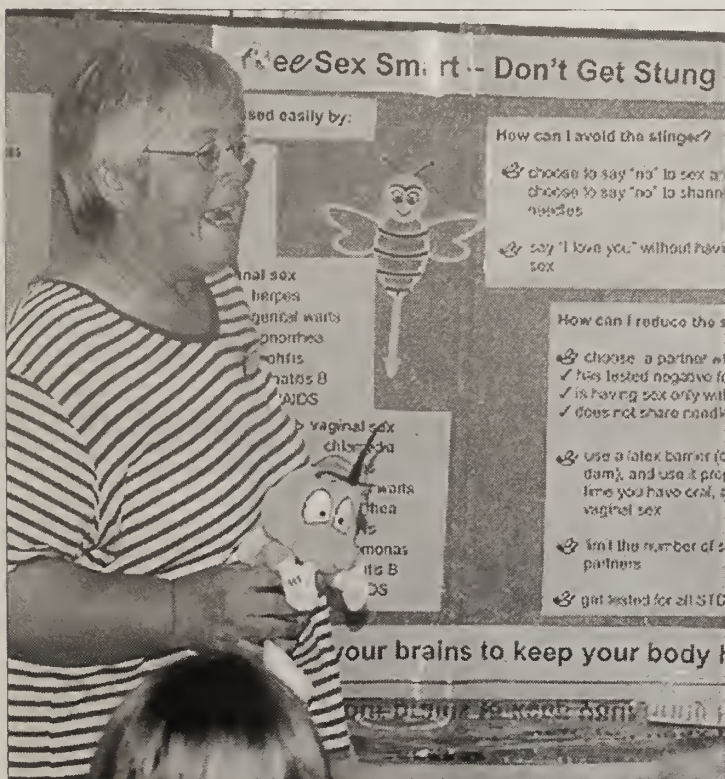
More than 65 students attended the workshop and were given hand-

outs and fact sheets at every station, as well as condoms and pamphlets on sexually transmitted infections at the sexual health session.

Some students also won prizes between the sessions, including Conestoga shirts, binders, gym bags and even a teddy bear.


The workshop lasted two hours, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and each station was 10 to 12 minutes long.

Students, staff and faculty headed outside after the workshop to enjoy a barbecue and some social time.



(Photo by Paige Hilton)

Dianne Roedding, the public health nurse for Waterloo Region, explains the birds and the bees at Survivor Conestoga's sexual health station.



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Throne speech leaves students out in the cold

Out of a 15-page throne speech, only one paragraph was dedicated to post-secondary education. This leaves current students, and ones headed to college and university in the next couple of years, empty-handed and out in the cold.

During the election the Liberals promised to spend \$8 billion to help colleges and universities, including a transfer payment to the provinces to only be used for post-secondary education. However, not a single promise was kept.

Prime Minister Paul Martin touched on a lot of areas in his throne speech, including health care, child care, environmental issues and help for cities, to name a few. However the only scrap for post-secondary education won't even help students for 15 years, if not longer.

The Liberals announced a plan to start a Canada Learning Bond that will lighten the burden of going to college or university. The bond is designed to help low-income families save for their child's post-secondary education.

This bond was announced with good intentions, but with low-income families having a hard enough time paying the bills and putting food on the table, it's a little much to expect them to have money to be able to put away in the first place.

This proposed bond also does nothing for the current problems facing post-secondary institutions and the students attending them, including student debt and rising tuition fees.

This all goes to show just how low education ranks on the government's list of priorities.

The financial burdens currently faced by students are enough to cause many to avoid a post-secondary education.

Is this really the message that the Liberals want sent out — that they are driving students away from college because they won't provide more financial assistance to students and make it more accessible?

The Liberal government needs to realize that by ignoring and abandoning post-secondary education and its students, they are alienating a whole generation of people.

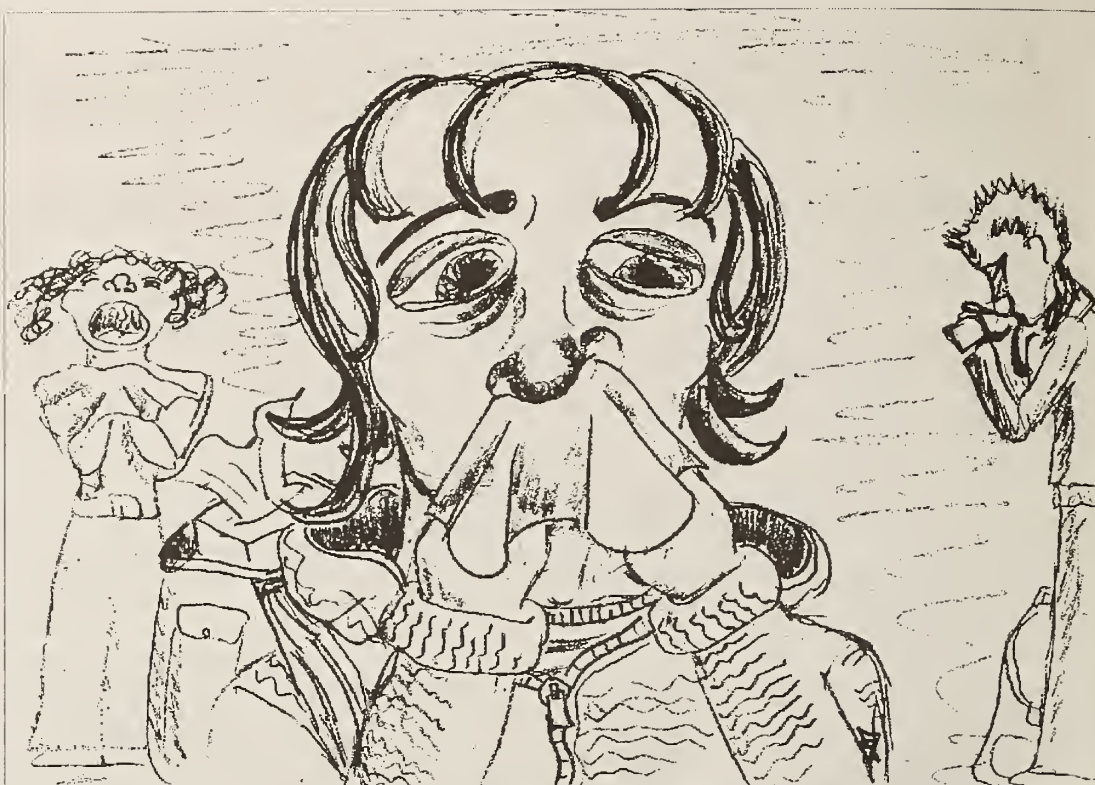
Students, and post-secondary education, are the future. Without us there will be no one to take all those jobs that will become vacant as the baby-boom generation retires.

Although nothing was mentioned in the throne speech, that doesn't mean that there is still not a chance that Martin and the Liberals will come through on at least part of their campaign promise, perhaps in the budget in February.

This gives students, parents, staff and faculty more than three months to lobby the government for more money for post-secondary education.

We need to step up and make sure our needs are heard. We need to remind Martin and the Liberal government that they can't forget about us and they can't leave us buried under all this debt.

The only scrap for post-secondary education won't even help students for 15 years.



Kristin knew she was back at school when she caught a cold

Time to embrace equality

Once upon a time women were not allowed to vote, black people had to sit at the back of the bus and homosexuals were kept in the closet.

Thankfully, our society, culture and political systems have progressed and these archaic observations are now only present in history textbooks.

However, we have not evolved to the point that equal rights reign supreme in Canada.

With the recent Supreme Court hearing into contentious constitutional issues surrounding same-sex marriage, I find it impossible to flip through the television channels without being bombarded by overbearing "experts" forcing their hardline views on me.

In my opinion the government should not, under any circumstance, have the power to dictate who can marry whom. If the government can say who I can marry, they might as well tell me what to eat for dinner, what program to tune into tonight and how to part my hair next week.

I am saddened to admit my views are not that of a vast majority.

Recently, I glanced at the Globe and Mail's online opinion poll to find that a startling 49 per cent of



Jennifer Ormston

Opinion

the 19,117 votes cast were in favour of the institution of marriage being reserved only for a man and woman.

To me, this narrow-minded attitude is unacceptable and I am not even a gay-rights advocate; nevertheless, if there is one thing I strongly believe in, it is equality.

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which we have all been taught about countless times in school, states everyone has equal benefit of the law without discrimination. If that is truly the case, then why is the issue of same-sex marriage even an issue?

I question why the 49 per cent of respondents in the poll voted against same-sex marriage. Do they honestly believe that everyone is the same? Do they think because they are heterosexual, everyone else should be too?

I dare them to put themselves in the shoes of a homosexual for just

one moment and imagine how it would feel to find your soulmate, only to be told by the government your relationship does not meet the standards and, therefore, is not worthy of legal recognition.

Opponents of gay wedlock can be found across the country. Currently, less than half of Canada's provinces and territories support same-sex marriages.

And some groups, like the Catholic church, are concerned about the implications for the family if and when same-sex marriage is accepted nationwide.

But who came up with the definition of "family" anyhow?

Most of the families I know do not meet the ideal of a mom, dad, son and daughter living together in domestic bliss. Add to those qualifications a dog and a white picket fence and no one I know fits the bill.

In this, the 21st century, it is time for everyone to accept that families are changing.

Now dad is seldom the only breadwinner, and mom is not always the bread baker. And who really cares about bread anyway?

I think all anyone can hope for is a supportive family — the Brady Bunch is a thing-of-the-past!



Letters are welcome

Spoke welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be signed and include the name and telephone number of the writer. Writers will be contacted for verification.

No unsigned letters will be published.

Letters should be no longer than 500 words.

Spoke reserves the right to edit any letter for publication.

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Conestoga Students Inc. presents...

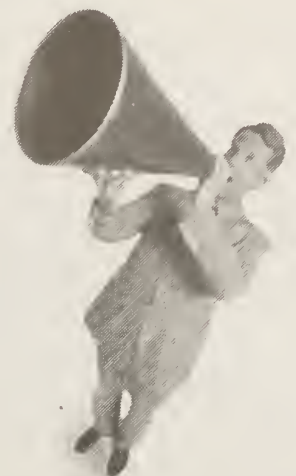
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STUDENT EXCHANGE CARDS

The ISE Card was created as a way to help those who were traveling to be able to save some money by receiving special discounted rates at overseas locations simply by presenting their card!

**AVAILABLE AT THE
CSI OFFICE**



Students with disabilities face barriers



(Photo by Janet Morris)

Doug Kemp demonstrates the position of the automatic door button in relation to Door 3.

By JANET MORRIS

At the present time, almost 10 per cent of the student population at Conestoga College is registered with disability services, receiving help with academic and physical accommodations, and more than half a dozen students rely on wheelchairs to navigate the campus. To help these students disability services offers a wide range of services and counselling in an attempt to fully integrate them into the college environment.

A 39-year-old student who relies on his wheelchair to get around the college said wheeling around campus is not too bad when the weather is nice.

"I presume when the snow flies it

will be tedious getting from the parking lot into the school, but as long as they keep the lots clear it shouldn't be too bad," said Doug Kemp of Wingham.

This is Kemp's first year at the college. He is in the business administration - financial planning program after he was forced to make a career change from a millwright and volunteer firefighter to a student after breaking his neck in a work-related accident in 1998.

Kemp said he found the school to be quite accessible, but could understand how someone in a larger wheelchair might have difficulties.

"The hallways can be congested when classes change and if it's crowded and I'm trying to wheel by it can be a bit tough," he said.

Another problem Kemp said he noticed was down by the cafeteria.

"The first day that I went down there I noticed on the one side they have the round-about (turnstile) you have to go through and I didn't know where the hell to go. I thought to myself, how do I get into this cafeteria?"

Kemp ended up having to go in through the exit.

He said he personally has not had any major problems with entrances as he is fairly mobile but there are some doors that are not accessible.

"Door 2 isn't accessible at all and at Door 3 the button to open the automatic door from the outside is at the bottom of the ramp so you have to press it and get up there in time."

Kemp said getting around in the Sanctuary can be difficult.

"People move the couches around and I'm lower than most people so the people around me are not really expecting someone to come up underneath them or bump into their feet, but people have been generally good," he said.

The bookstore was a challenge at the beginning of the year when people who were in a hurry would leave their backpacks all over the front of the store.

"I have to kick the backpacks out of the way a little bit to work around them," he said.

Su Lyttle, the computer technology consultant for disability services, says she is no expert on wheelchair accessibility but she did design the adaptive technology lab for students with disabilities.

"I'm certainly not an authority on wheelchair accessibility. It's only

through experience of other students and mostly what people tell me that I have learned about the challenges disabled students face," said Lyttle, who has been with the college for six years.

Lyttle has encountered a few specific challenges when she wheeled her friend, who is temporarily in a wheelchair, around the campus.

"The problem area that stuck out the most for her was the women's washroom in the 2A100 corridor, just inside Door 3. It has a handicapped access sign on the door but you can't get in that way in a wheelchair," Lyttle said. "You don't know to go to the other door and if you were new to the school you might not know there were two doors to enter the facility."

She said if you go to the other side there is an automatic door but it is difficult to get in and turn the corner.

"Even though I work here I hadn't noticed that you really need to go to the other door on the other side, because when I wheeled my friend down there I fought with the door and thought it was supposed to be a disabled access entrance. If she had to do this on her own she wouldn't have managed."

The Conestoga College Sept. 2004 accessibility plan states that all identified doors have automatic openers.

Lyttle said she noticed at Door 3 when she tried to wheel her friend up the ramp they couldn't find the button to open the automatic door.

"I turned around and realized it was at the bottom of the ramp, so I had to wheel her down the ramp and hit the button, which was kind of bizarre to me."

She said once they got up the ramp, the door opened towards them and they had to back up quickly to get out of the way.

"When you are exiting Door 3 it opens correctly, so perhaps one door for going out and one door for coming in would be more appropriate," said Lyttle.

The cost to purchase and install an automatic door on an outside entrance ranges from \$1,500 to \$3,000 and the cost for an inside door ranges from \$1,500 to \$1,800.

Lyttle said to be fair, few buildings, even off campus, are completely accessible.

However, disability services continues to strive to create a campus that is free of barriers.

WORK AND LEARNING

Although students can derive positive benefits from working while they attend school, such as earning extra money, research indicates that there are several negative consequences for students who are employed more than 15 hours per week. Many studies* have shown that there is a correlation between the number of hours students spend on the job and their degree of success in terms of academic achievement.

Many students who are employed more than 15 hours per week while in college indicate that their academic endeavours faced negative consequences directly due to their employment. These negative consequences included reduced time to study, missed assignments and lectures, not having sufficient time to do homework, having lower grades, having later bedtimes, which meant shorter sleeping times, which meant increased fatigue, resulting in more frequent episodes of falling asleep in class, and more late arrivals at school.

Despite some of the positive outcomes of working while attending school, please carefully evaluate the amount of time you spend on the job and what effect it truly is having on your education.

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To make an appointment for learning strategy assistance, visit the Student Services Office.

A Message from Learning Strategies

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College hosts manufacturing shindig

By MIKE BORS

Conestoga College's ATS manufacturing facility was the site of a seminar Oct. 5 where officials discussed the importance of the manufacturing industry in the area.

The event was put on by Canada's Technology Triangle Inc., a local innovator in the manufacturing industry that markets Waterloo Region on the national and international stage.

"The event was a great way to demonstrate the focus of Conestoga."

Lind Fegan,

manager of marketing

and communications at

Canada's Technology Triangle

Many from the industry showed up as well as local politicians, bankers and representatives from Conestoga, showing their support for the manufacturing industry in the KW area.

The crowd listened to a handful of introductions, including one by college president John Tibbits, before separating into four groups and delving into working group discussions.

The discussion topics were: skills and education; innovation and continuous improvement; services, finance, international business; and municipal issues.

Many interesting points were raised such as the fact that the manufacturing industry is the largest in Canada and the growth in the industry from 1991 to 2001 was three times larger than the average industry growth.

The event ended with a recap of each group's main points, some closing remarks and a tour of the new manufacturing complex led by Eric Dahlin, associate vice-president of business development and applied research.

The main reason the event was held was to shine light on Conestoga's new manufacturing centre and show the college's contribution to the industry said Lind Fegan, manager of marketing and communications at Canada's Technology Triangle.

"The event was a great way to demonstrate the focus of Conestoga," said Fegan.



Dahlin



(Photo by Chantelle Timperley)

Hard at work

Ala Kader, a first-year woodworking student, works on the top part of her pedestal table.

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CSI offers free services

Colour photocopying, laminating, scanning, binding and faxing services offered at no cost to students

By STEPH BAULK

Conestoga Students Inc. has made a few changes to its office this year, in hopes it will better benefit the students.

For starters, CSI has changed the office into a self-serve area, and starting on Oct. 16, it will be open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Judy Dusick, the CSI's general manager, said everything is made easier for and more accessible to the students.

"We found a lot of students last year, particularly near the end of the semester, who were working late getting their projects finished couldn't get something bound or laminated or get a colour overhead," said Dusick. "So we decided to extend the hours to help them with that."

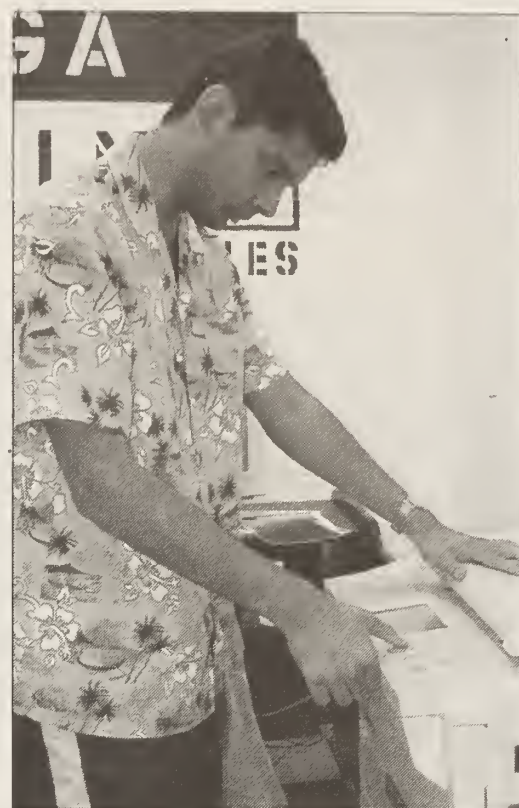
CSI has also made colour printing, colour photocopying, laminating, scanning, binding and faxing services free to all students for "educational purposes only." Black and white photocopying is 15 cents per copy.

Dusick said a CSI staff member monitors the machines so everything is kept under control.

"At this point in time the photocopier has an access code on it so if they need a colour copy or a colour overhead our self-service staff will have to help them with that."

John Yungblut, 19, a second-year civil engineering student, said it's wonderful that CSI has made everything so accessible to students this year.

"I like that I can go in and use the machines for free," he said. "It makes things so much more convenient, especially if you never carry change."



(Photo by Steph Baulk)

Edgar Xavier, 20, an electronics engineering telecommunications student, photocopies a black and white page for one of his classes on Oct. 7.

Women's Resource Group Photography Contest

In remembrance of the women who died Dec. 6, 1989 at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal

Deadline:

Nov. 12, 2004

Entries:

Current students of Conestoga College may enter photographs promoting the theme, Positive Relationships, and all it encompasses, including reflections of support, kindness, harmony, peace and tolerance.

Fees:

None

Prizes:

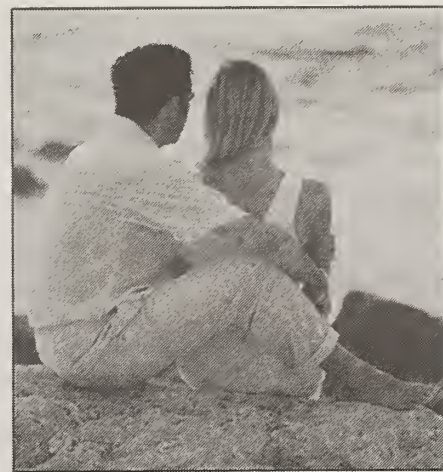
\$150—\$100—\$50.

Rules:

All photographs must be the original work of the entrant. Each entrant may submit 2 photos.

Judging will be based on the photograph's emotional impact as well as composition, originality and technical quality.

Entries can be black and white or colour, and taken with a 35mm or digital camera, but must be submitted as 4" x 6" prints. All entries will become the property of the Women's Resource Group and winning entries will be published in Spoke and announced on CJIQ.



Submit your entries, clearly labelled "Photography Contest," to:

Student Services
Room 2B04

All entries must include the student's name, student ID number, Program, e-mail address and phone number.

Women's Resource Group

HALLOWEEN MADNESS OCTOBER 28TH - 9PM

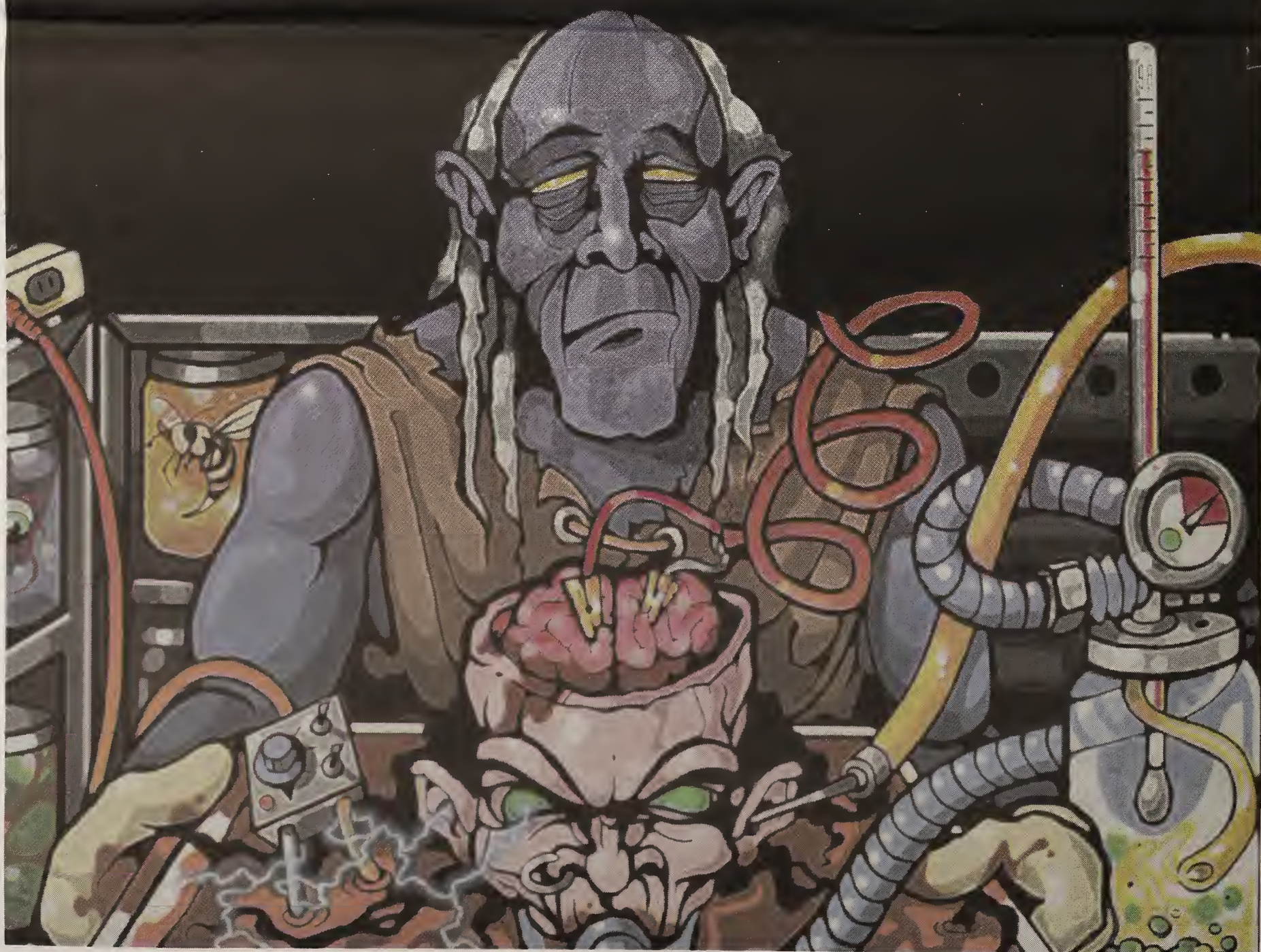
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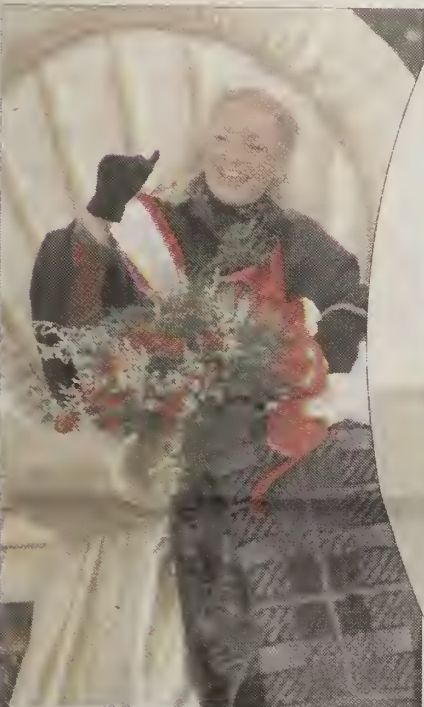
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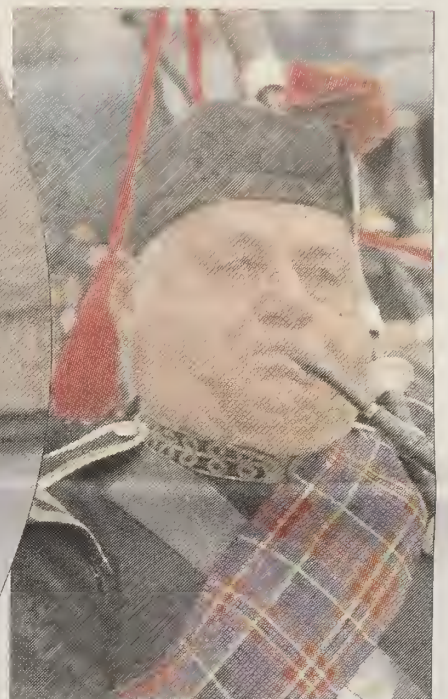
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Oktoberfest parade invades K-W



Robyn Hewson from Mount Forest is this year's Miss Oktoberfest.



Music played a major role in the Oktoberfest parade.



Parade-goers were treated to authentic costumes.

The king of Oktoberfest

Onkel Hans (above), the Oktoberfest mascot, made an appearance at the parade Oct. 11 in downtown Kitchener.



Kitchener's mayor, Carl Zehr, was among the crowd of people in the parade.

Photos by Tim Murphy



About 10 clowns entertained the crowd.

International student enjoying Canada and college

By TIM MURPHY

Every year, many students from around the world come to Conestoga College to study, leaving behind their family, friends, and familiar surroundings.

One of those students is 20-year-old Leanne Chen, a second-year English Language Studies (ELS) student who came here from China. Chen, a soft-spoken woman, said

she heard from people that Conestoga College was the best in Ontario, which is why she chose to come here. "My parents wanted me to come here to study more," she said.

Living in Canada, she said, is quite similar to China. "It's just food that's different," she said with a laugh.

Although she didn't have a positive impression of Canada before she came here, her experiences at

the college and travelling in Ontario have changed her opinion.

She said the international education office was very helpful to her.

"When we have issues, we can go there and talk with them," she said. "They can help us to solve them."

Chen said after she has finished her ELS courses, she wants to take a nursing program here at the college.

"I'm enjoying studying here, and the people are kind. They make me

feel good."

Chen said she knows some students who have studied English at Conestoga, then changed schools afterwards to finish their studies.

"After doing so, they realized they made a mistake," she said.

She said she has travelled to Toronto, Niagara Falls and Canada's Wonderland with the international education office.

The office works to make coming to Conestoga from a foreign country as uncomplicated as possible.

After the college has received and approved an application from a student, the student must then secure a

study permit before they can enter Canada.

Once they arrive, they are picked up from the airport at no cost, and driven to Conestoga. Housing arrangements are also organized if the student needs them.

The international education office arranges activities for the students, which often takes them to Niagara Falls, baseball games, the CN Tower, St. Jacob's Farmers Market, and Paramount Canada's Wonderland.

The international education office also organizes social events for students in residence who are unable to go home during the holidays.

College promotes women in technology

By NICOLE DEAK

Technology and engineering programs at Conestoga College have historically had few women enrolled in them.

On Sept. 30, a Women in Technology meeting was held at the college and focused on encouraging and supporting women who are currently in one of these programs.

Approximately 10 per cent of students in these programs are women.

John Donald, dean of engineering and information technology, said the college does not have a good record of attracting women into these courses.

"We are lucky if women fill 20 per cent of classes," said Donald. "We should be seeing numbers closer to 50/50."

The meeting consisted of an informal discussion between students, faculty and alumni. Four alumni attended the meeting and offered advice, shared their experiences and spoke words of encouragement to the female students who attended.

Beata Rancourt, a civil engineering technologist for the Region of York, said women need to promote themselves to change society's perception of women in the field.

"It's a matter of how (women) are promoting it," she said. "It's our own attitude that has to change. We need to be more positive."

Rancourt graduated from civil engineering at Conestoga College in 2002. She said she had no problem getting a job and offered words of encouragement to students.

"The atmosphere changes when women are around. We make the workplace more positive."

Farah Rodgers, a mechanical technician co-op diploma apprenticeship student, said being a female in technology has never been an issue for her.

"It's kind of strange when you are in a class of 45 guys and three girls," said Rodgers, "but employ-

ers base it on your skill level."

Rodgers said she didn't mind working with men and encourages women to stick to their chosen field of study.

"I find men to be helpful because I want to learn," she said. "Don't be afraid, it's something you can get over. Do it!"

Common concerns raised at the meeting were fears of not getting a job once students graduated and some students said they wished they had been told ahead of time that men would think that they were incompetent.

Julia Biederman, program coordinator of civil engineering, said one change that needs to happen is for society to get rid of stereotypes.

"Women who chose technology are more motivated to succeed. We have to have a good work ethic and keep ourselves organized."

Biederman also spoke about why she felt the number of women in technology was so low.

"This issue is deeply rooted," said Biederman. "It goes back to primary school. Women need to be educated about careers in technology at a young age."

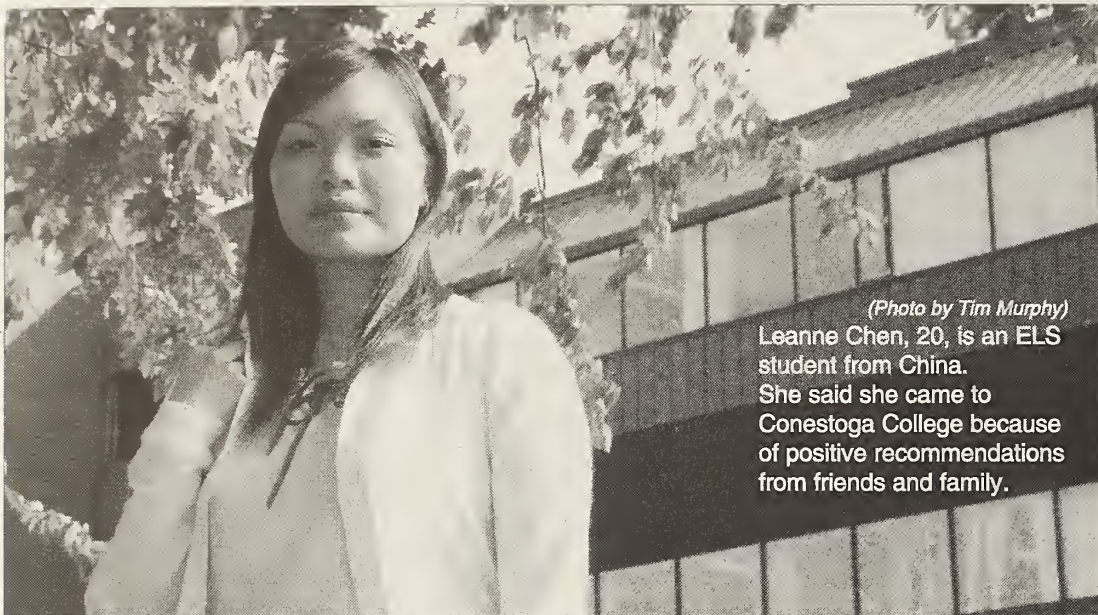
Kerry Townson, a faculty member in communication and liberal studies, said she has noticed the significantly lower numbers of women entering these programs.

Townson is currently completing her masters through Athabasca University in Alberta, and plans on doing her final project on women in technology. She also said in order for more women to be enrolled in technology programs, changes need to happen in elementary school.

At the meeting, women were also encouraged to be optimistic, ask questions, to be determined, to have a positive attitude and to stick to it no matter what.

Biederman said the future for women in technology is the same as men.

"There will be good careers, there's no doubt about it."



(Photo by Tim Murphy)
Leanne Chen, 20, is an ELS student from China. She said she came to Conestoga College because of positive recommendations from friends and family.

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Public Speaking Anxiety

Do you do any of the following?

- Feel extreme anxiety when thinking about doing a presentation.
- Find your palms sweat, your legs shake or your heart beats wildly before, during or after a speech.
- Find your thoughts race and your mind blanks before or during a presentation.
- Select your program/course/assignments to be "safe" from having to make a speech.
- Risk low marks or failure in a course by not doing a speech.
- Develop creative excuses or illnesses (that feel real at the time) to avoid doing presentations.
- Let others in your group "carry" the presentation.
- Fear "making a fool of yourself" in front of teachers or peers.
- Believe everyone is fairly calm but see yourself as a "wreck."

These are some signs you may be experiencing one of the most common anxieties: public speaking anxiety. It can be overcome using a planful approach involving: 1) recognizing and altering negative thoughts; 2) relaxation and positive mental rehearsal techniques; and 3) practicing in low-risk situations and then in situations with graduated levels of risk.

If your course work, your well being, or your potential to perform as an employee are affected, it is time to do something about it. Remember, avoidance actually increases anxiety!

The following resources are available to you at the college:

- 1) Inquire about a Public Speaking Anxiety group in the Student Services Office.
- 2) Enroll in the Public Speaking option of the Anxiety and Personal Performance course (offered as an elective in the Winter semester).
- 3) Read the Anxiety and Phobia Workbook, Bourne (available at the LRC on the shelf and on reserve). This approach must be supplemented with practice in front of friends, family or classmates.
- 4) Make an appointment with a counsellor in Student Services.

A Message from Student Services

Visit our website <http://www.conestogac.on.ca/jsp/stserv/index.jsp>



(Photos by Ryan Connell)

Down to the final two

Human services student Sachi Keller, 19, and business management student Adam Fridenburg, 20, were selected as the final two at the CSI Idol competition on Oct. 13. Keller performed Impossible by Christina Aguilera and Fridenburg sang New York New York by Frank Sinatra. The two finalists will perform against each other at the CSI Idol finale on Oct. 20.

Volunteer work great addition to resume

By CHANTELE TIMPERLEY

Students who are ambitious and seeking advancement opportunities may want to consider volunteer work.

Volunteering is beneficial to students' futures, especially when it comes to job hunting. It teaches students how to develop skills, face new challenges and gain work experience.

Volunteering heightens confidence and self-esteem, helps in meeting new people, helps to make contacts by means of networking, improves health and instills a sense of value.

It allows students to get involved with various causes they support, develop their own communication skills and be involved in the college and community.

Employers are also impressed when they see volunteer work on resumes. It shows that students are willing to go that extra distance and are open to learning new things. It shows initiative and a desire to work hard.

Melissa Turner, who has been a Conestoga peer services administrator for nearly six years, said she sees more students this year who are interested in volunteer work.

"I think volunteer work is an excellent addition to a resume," she said. "I think employers are really looking for students who have gone that extra step to do other things beyond part-time work."

Turner talked about the peer host program — a support and friendship match where Conestoga students connect with students from another culture.

Students meet once a week for an hour with an international student who is new to Conestoga and new to Canada. They provide information about the school and Canadian culture.

Turner recommended the peer hosting program because it is on campus and flexible. Most students are able to meet in between classes or during lunch. It does not take much time and has little conflict with school.

Students often avoid volunteering because of time commitment. They are busy with studies, part-time jobs, as well as other activities.

Turner said many of the students who do participate want to learn about other people's customs. Others just like to help other people and feel an urge to become involved in the community somehow.

Some students need volunteer hours for their program.

It can turn out to be more than just an obligation, however. The experience can make students walk away with a sense of responsibility and the feeling that they have done something good for someone else.

Turner said reference letters or verbal references are available in peer services to students who offer their time to do volunteer work.

"Most of our volunteers do it because they want to help someone and they enjoy meeting other people," she said. "They want to get involved in the college community."

Volunteer opportunities and information on them are posted in the co-op and career services department.

Be selfish with United Way

By RYAN CONNELL

Selfishness normally isn't something that should be considered when donating money to organizations like United Way.

However, Darcelle Watts, executive assistant for the office of the vice-president of student affairs and Conestoga College's United Way chairperson, says that people need to be selfish when it comes to donating money because they're the ones who are actually using United Way.

"It's really important for people to remember that the money they give to United Way actually stays in their community," she says.

The college's annual campaign kicks off Oct. 25 and runs until Nov. 5.

United Way enhances the quality of life in communities by helping to fund various agencies such as the AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and Area (ACCKWA) and the

Canadian Red Cross. The organization also monitors the agencies to ensure the donations are being put to proper use. Conestoga College serves four United Way regions: Waterloo Region, Guelph-Wellington, Perth-Huron and Cambridge-North Dumfries.

A booth will be set up outside Door 4 at the college's Doon campus to accept donations to reach the college's goal of \$40,000. A large thermometer chart will also be posted nearby for passersby to see how much money is being raised each day during the campaign. Red paper is added to the chart as money is collected.

"We kept our goal at the same benchmark as last year's so hopefully we'll be able to beat the mark again this year," Watts says.

Pledge cards were also distributed to staff and faculty at the college, encouraging them to submit donations to help Conestoga come closer to its goal.

Other areas of the college are also taking part to help generate donations.

A lasagna lunch will be served in the Doon campus cafeteria on Oct. 27 for \$6. Chartwells, the cafeteria's food service company, will be donating the profits from the meal to United Way.

Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI) will also be donating all of the cover charge proceeds from its Halloween Bash on Oct. 28 to United Way.

Watts says she thinks more people are starting to use the services in the community, and more people still need to know that they are out there for when people need assistance.

"That's what those agencies do and anybody who's used them has always been so thankful, and almost surprised, that it was there and they never even knew about them before," she says. "Well, they do exist and they get their funds from United Way."

WATCH FOR US!



The Conestoga College United Way Campaign
October 25 - November 5, 2004

WE'LL BE LOOKING FOR YOU!



ST. PETERSBURG IS A CITY

By JENNIFER ORMSTON

This is the second part of Jennifer's travel series recounting tales of her summer vacation to Eastern Europe. She has left Finland with her father to meet their tour group in St. Petersburg.

Having visited approximately 15 European countries in the past, I considered myself well versed in travelling throughout the continent; however, my prior experiences had not adequately prepared me for what I encountered as my plane descended into Russia.

The turbulent flight from Helsinki, Finland, where I had spent a luxurious few days wandering through lush parks and crowded squares, to St. Petersburg was pleasantly short: only 35 minutes. During that time my thoughts were consumed by the uncertainty of meeting the tour group my father and I would join for the next three weeks.

However, as our Finnair plane approached the runway, the troubling sights outside the small airplane window dissipated such thoughts.

My dreams of an opulent St. Petersburg were quickly dashed and changed to concern for our personal safety. The airport was in a desolate area and all I could see for miles around were dilapidated buildings and an archaic landing strip.

Russian customs did little to change my impression, as the officials made Ebenezer Scrooge seem friendly by comparison.

The first kind face my dad and I saw was that of our local guide, Alya Ignatieva, who would escort our group during our stay in the city. She paged a car and advised us to spend the day sightseeing until we met the group for dinner.

As with my drive from the airport into Helsinki, I was startled by the view. This time, however, the sights before me were not of scenic landscapes and attractive people. In contrast, the Russians looked poor and their clothes old and shabby. Instead of jubilant Finnish street performers, police stood on the roadside randomly stopping people in antiquated vehicles.

To add to my trepidation, rather



(Photo by Jennifer Ormston)

The fountains at Peterhof are among the most spectacular in the world. Peterhof, one of Peter the Great's palaces, is in the background.

than being greeted at the hotel by welcoming valets dressed in pressed white shirts and black suits, I was "warmly" received by large metal detectors and three churlish security guards.

As I settled into my dingy hotel room, I switched on the television only to be confronted by images of violence and bloodshed in

Chechnya, where a bomb had just killed its leader.

The BBC informed me, now a wary and scared traveller, that political unrest permeated through Russia. President Vladimir Putin had been reinaugurated the week before and his reign was fraught with problems, including high poverty rates, a more than 20 per

cent national unemployment rate, rampant crime and Chechen rebels.

Thankfully a knock at the door cut my viewing short. My dad,

more confident than I, was eager to explore our surroundings.

At first, our wanderings left me disappointed and nervous.

Young men dressed in militia uniforms roamed the streets. The smell of gasoline mixed with vendor food made my stomach feel woozy. The buildings looked dismal and uninviting.

But as we rounded the corner of a street riddled with potholes, my feelings turned to amazement. Before me was the first sign of the splendor I mistakenly presumed would be prevalent. The impressive and uncommonly colourful church in front of me had a complex design unlike any I had ever seen before.

It was clear by the looks of astonishment and clicking of cameras that the tourists milling around the church shared my awe.

Steeple heights were topped with multicoloured onion-shaped domes. Mosaic panels depicting scenes from the New Testament surrounded the exterior of the building.

I rummaged through my bag looking for my trusty Frommer's travel guide, which quickly informed me the vibrant building was the Church of our Saviour on the Spilled Blood, erected on the site of the bloody murder of Emperor Alexander II in 1881 by a terrorist.

Regardless of the wonder before me, the stench of manure from the horse-drawn carriages by the church forced me to cut my visit short.

Across the street a sign read Internet Cafe. As I had not checked my emails since arriving in Europe days earlier, I decided to venture over.

I walked into the smoke-filled room, the air so thick it was difficult to breathe, and asked the attendant, "May I use the computer?"

"No, it's down," he replied gruffly.

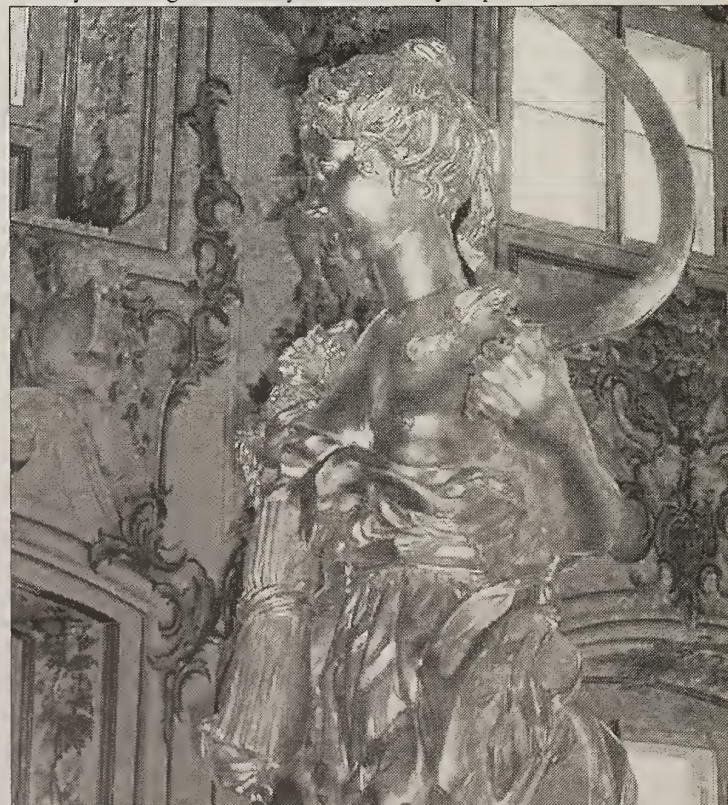
"When will it be working?" I inquired.

"How the hell would I know," he rudely responded.



(Photo by Jennifer Ormston)

Tourists may climb to the top of the golden dome at St. Isaac's Cathedral for an unbeatable view of the city. The church, built to hold 14,000 patrons, is now only used on special occasions.



(Photo by Jennifer Ormston)

The main stairway at Peterhof is adorned with gilded carvings that glitter as you climb the stairs.

OF STRIKING CONTRASTS

So back to the hotel we traipsed, happy to be in Russia, but seriously questioning the local attitude.

That evening we met our group and tour guide for the first time.

Joining us on our adventure were native New Yorkers John Hanks and Fran Condon, a couple in their 50s, and Massachusettsans Bob and Ursula Harper, a couple in their late 70s who had remarkable energy. Our tour organizer, Amber Medkiff, was a peppy woman in her 30s with long curly red hair, uninhibited like her personality.

For better or for worse, the seven of us should spend the next three weeks together.

Our days in St. Petersburg were busy with touring beginning early in the morning and cultural events running late into the evening.

As we emerged from the bus at Peterhof, the summer palace of Peter the Great, it was clear we had left the heatwave of Helsinki behind.

I had religiously studied the Weather Network for weeks prior to departing and all signs had indicated balmy weather. However, as minute snowflakes sporadically fell from the sky, I realized my wardrobe was inappropriate.

With chattering teeth and frigid hands, I wandered through the manicured gardens of this grand property, often touted as the Russian version of the French Versailles.

The exquisite fountains at Peterhof were a sight to behold. Dozens of glittering gilded bronze sculptures with water cascading around them lined the hill up to the majestic yellow grand palace.

Walking through the lavishly furnished rooms of the grandiose castle, I imagined the royalty who had lived in these immense chambers, surrounded by rare artwork, marble statues and crystal chandeliers. Even the walls were decorated with elaborate mouldings, the windows shielded by velvet drapes and the floors covered with precious marble and wood arranged in intricate designs.

Through the windows, a view of the magnificent fountains, known as the Grand Cascade, could be seen and in the distance, the Gulf of Finland was visible.

Our time at Peterhof was limited as St. Petersburg is a place with countless photo opportunities for tourists. Of the many attractions in St. Petersburg, for me, the golden-domed St. Isaac's Cathedral was the climax of the city tour.

From the window of our small tour bus, which in my estimation required shock absorbers, I could see this architectural masterpiece through the hazy air for what seemed like miles.

As we approached I realized it was even grander than I had expected.

More than 100 red granite columns lined the exterior, drawing attention to the dome - the fourth highest of its kind in the world. Statues of saints and angels adorned the roof.

St. Isaac's, once the leading Russian Orthodox cathedral, was turned into a museum under the Soviet regime.

The inside was as overwhelming

as the exterior, although making your way to the front door through the overbearing street vendors, selling everything from faux beaver-fur hats to poorly made knock-offs of handcrafted Russian Matrushka dolls, was trickier than I had expected.

However, once I made my way through the immense doorway my patience was rewarded.

Incandescent paintings and mosaics of moving biblical scenes framed in gold mouldings covered the walls and ceilings, even into the highest recesses of the dome.

The sound of high-heeled shoes clanging against the marble floor resounded in my ears.

As I stood directly beneath the centre of the dome I looked up to see a dove suspended in the cupola at the pinnacle of the arched roof, its wings open, a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

The cool air in the building sent a chill up my spine.

It was easy to fathom why production of this marvellous building lasted 40 years.

Despite all the wonders and treasures I saw in St. Petersburg, I soon realized the stark contrast between the rich and poor had left a permanent mark on me.

As we drove down swanky boulevards, like the famous Nevsky Prospect, we passed ostentatious statues, stately museums and high-end stores. The money that had been spent beautifying the city seemed outlandish.

The Hermitage, one of the world's most famous museums, houses a vast collection of Russian treasures worth millions of dollars. One horse blanket I saw was even adorned with 16,000 substantial diamonds.

And yet in my assessment, the average person, clad in humble attire, driving through graffiti-lined streets in a jalopy, appeared needy.

Throughout my stay in St. Petersburg, I had harshly criticized the disposition of most locals, but maybe I had judged them unfairly.

As our time with Alya came to an end, she confided in our small group about her home life. Tears welled in her brown eyes as she began, her lips quivered, revealing brown crooked teeth.

She lived in a humble apartment with her ex-husband. Neither could afford their own place, thus they had no choice but to cohabit despite a bitter divorce. She was one of the lucky ones though: many less fortunate families were forced into communal living.

The one shining light in her life has been her son. She set aside every ruble she could spare to send him to university in the United States. He has earned a full scholarship to a school in Oregon, where he is currently working towards his PhD in economics and holds two part-time jobs.

Sadly, they have not seen each other in almost a decade.

Since he left, Alya has applied for several visas to go to the United States; however, the Russian government has refused each application on the basis that she does not have enough savings and investments to ensure her return to St. Petersburg. It fears she would for-

feit what little money she has in her homeland to stay with her son in America.

Tears slowly slid down her face. Amber, visibly shaken by this tragic tale, was unable to comprehend how a mother and son could be kept apart for so long. She asked Alya how she deals with the separation.

"I try not to think about it," said Alya. "If I do, it breaks my heart."

This forlorn woman's poignant story was heart wrenching to hear and even harder to comprehend. The cruelty of some governmental regimes made the tribulations of Canadian politics seemed as trivial as a passing cloud on an otherwise sunny day.

It was with saddened spirits that our group parted ways with our brave guide and boarded the plane for Moscow.

Only later, after meeting several other local guides, I came to realize how lucky we were to become acquainted with Alya.

She granted our group the rare opportunity to catch a glimpse of life in St. Petersburg from the inside.

Pick up a copy of next week's Spoke as Jennifer arrives in Moscow.



(Photo by Jennifer Ormston)

My father stopped for a photo with a thirsty horse outside the colourful Church of our Saviour on the Spilled Blood.



(Photo by Jennifer Ormston)

The Church of our Saviour on the Spilled Blood is a popular tourist attraction on account of its unique architecture. Depending on what translation book you read, the church goes by different names including Church of the Redeemer, Resurrection Church and Church of the Bleeding Saviour.

Moviegoers can buy more popcorn thanks to lower SilverCity prices

By JASON SONSER

Moviegoers will be pleased to know that SilverCity's ticket prices have been lowered.

Reducing the price of tickets from a high of \$13.50 to \$9.95 for all adult general admissions is an attempt by SilverCity to bring more people to their theatres.

Andrew Sherbin, manager of corporate affairs at SilverCity, said even though it's the movies that attract people to theatres, they hope that lowering the price will be seen as an exceptional value.

"\$9.95 for general admissions takes the guesswork out of going to the movies," Sherbin said. "It's a simplified price plan that was implemented all across Canada, which has been successful in other provinces."

The new admission price started

Sept. 10. Sherbin said the prices will remain where they are until there is reason to raise them.

He added as time progresses, the success of the new admission price will be evaluated and decisions will be made accordingly.

Prior to Sept. 10, general admission to a movie at SilverCity was \$13.50, weekend matinees were \$10.75 and weekday matinees were \$8.75.

Sherbin said although the implementation of the \$9.95 admission price has been attracting people, this past September has been one of the worst Septembers SilverCity has seen in "the past three or four years."

However, he said it's because there haven't been as many movies in the box office that have caught people's attention. He said he will be able to evaluate the success of the new admission price once more appealing movies hit theatres.

Sherbin said none of the other prices in the theatre has been changed to compensate for the lowered admission prices. The pricing of snacks, for example, is based on the price given by the suppliers.

Megan Todd, a second-year public relations student, said she thinks it's great that SilverCity's ticket prices have gone down.

"It was a little expensive to begin with," Todd said. "So lowering their prices is great, it will get more people out."

Krista Hewitt, a second-year broadcasting student, said although it's interesting that SilverCity has lowered their prices, she prefers to go to Cineplex Odeon on Fairway Road.

"I think the pricing in SilverCity is way too high for students to go see movies on a regular basis because we don't have that kind of finances while we're going to school," Hewitt said. "So when we do go to SilverCity, it's only once in a while."

Hewitt said she goes to Cineplex Odeon because the prices are significantly cheaper than SilverCity. According to Cineplex Odeon and Galaxy Cinema's website, ticket prices are \$8.95 for general admission and \$6.50 for children and seniors.

"I mean, you still get the big screen and the great sound there, just like SilverCity," Hewitt said.

James Hammond, a second-year broadcasting student, said he thinks it is "cool" that SilverCity lowered its prices.

Cale Finn, a third-year broadcasting student, said his only complaint about SilverCity is their high prices.

"It's a great place to watch a movie, the seats are great, the sound is great, the screens are great. I think it was the money I had complaints about; it was a little pricey to watch a movie."

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Horoscope

Week of Oct. 18, 2004



Aries

March 21 - April 19

You have been too overbearing in expressing your views on issues that are controversial. Try to be a little more sensitive to the people around you who may have good ideas as well.



Taurus

April 20 - May 20

You know what you want to do with your life. Seize this moment and tailor your life towards reaching that goal.



Gemini

May 21 - June 21

You and your friends are like crackers and cheese. You can have them separately but it's just not the same if someone is missing. Try not to exclude anyone.



Cancer

June 22 - July 22

Feeling a little lonely? Perhaps a new pet is in order. It will keep you company and show you the value of taking care of something that is totally dependent on you.



Leo

July 23 - August 22

This week you are feeling lighthearted. People will take notice and be drawn to your positive spirit. Keep on smiling!



Virgo

August 23 - September 22

Baby it's you, according to Jo Jo. Stop obsessing over your partner's commitment to you, have a little trust in him or her; you're the one they want to be with.



Janet Morris is a 2nd-year journalism student in tune with the universe.



Libra

September 23 - October 22

You have been questioning your faith and beliefs. If you want to be sure you're following the right path look into other options.



Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

The opportunity to make a little extra money is on the horizon. It won't be without cost to your social life but is well worth the effort.



Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

Generally you are a happy person and this week you feel successful. Stay away from self-admiration, it's not something to brag about and you should adjust your attitude.



Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

You are looking awesome, feeling awesome and generally have a happy disposition. To stay on this high you'll need to keep on finding the positive in everything.



Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

You share Green Day's opinion and don't want to be an American Idiot. Here's how: stay in school, cancel your NRA membership and quit your fast-food diet.



Pisces

February 19 - March 20

It's not you that stinks, it's someone else around you. You can't quite put your finger on who ... follow your nose.

Former Blue Jay pitcher and television analyst dies

By JON YANOFF

The Toronto Blue Jays baseball season came to a tragic end Oct. 3 when their former pitcher and television analyst, John Cerutti, unexpectedly died.



(Internet photo)

John Cerutti, former Toronto Blue Jay pitcher and commentator, was found dead in his SkyDome hotel room.

The 44-year-old Rogers Sportsnet analyst was scheduled to call the Jays' final game with commentator Rob Faulds but he did not show up.

His SkyDome hotel room was searched by police and emergency

medical workers where his body was found.

Blue Jays president Paul Godfrey said on the TSN website that Cerutti was believed to have died of natural causes and foul play was not suspected.

Cerutti leaves behind wife, Claudia, and their three children, Daniel, Nicole and Janine.

The Albany, N.Y. native was Toronto's first-round draft pick, 21st overall, in 1981.

After joining the Blue Jays in 1985 he helped win the American League East titles in '85 and '89 and spent six seasons with the club.

The relief pitcher had a career 49-43 win-loss record with a respectable 3.94 earned run average in 229 games with the Jays and the Detroit Tigers.

From 1997-2002 Cerutti was the Blue Jays colour commentator for CBC before spending the last three seasons as the lead analyst for Rogers Sportsnet.

Cerutti was considered by many to be an excellent pitcher and an outstanding commentator for the Blue Jays. Through his accomplishments he was an even better person.

Cerutti's career stats

- Drafted 21st overall by the Toronto Blue Jays in 1981
- Pitched six years in the major leagues for the Blue Jays and the Detroit Tigers
- Appeared in 229 major league games
- Posted a 49-43 win-loss record
- Had an 3.94 earned run average



(Photo by James Clark)

Physical resources reaches new heights

Mark Harwood of physical resources repairs lights in parking Lot 1 at Conestoga College's Doon campus on Oct. 5.



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Rugby team hoping for a gold rush

Would like third-place finish to avoid Seneca in first round

By KATE BATTLER

The Conestoga Condors men's rugby team is dreaming of a gold medal at the Ontario College Athletics Association (OCAA) championship tournament, Oct. 30 and 31.

Assistant coach Geoff Moskalyk says the team is hoping for a third-place finish in the standings so they don't have to face the Seneca Sting in the first round.

"We would really like to end up third and play Peterborough in the first round," says Moskalyk.

The Condors got off to a good start in their game against Seneca on Oct. 5. The Condors scored first with a kick to go up 3-0.

This is the first time in three years that Seneca has not been leading in a game. The Sting have also not lost a game in three years, leading to three straight victories at the OCAA championships.

Seneca came back and proceeded to score three tries during the remainder of the first half, yet they failed on all three conversion kicks leaving the score at 15-3 to finish the first half.

To start off the second half Seneca scored another try but missed the 2-point conversion kick for the fourth time in a row.

The Condors came right back with a try of their own, scored by Russel Wykes, but missed the conversion kick as well, making the score 20-8.

Seneca went on to win the game 30-8 but the Condors put up quite a fight considering the number of missed calls, especially for obstruction, that should have been called against the Sting.

Moskalyk says the game was probably the best the team has played all year, even though they lost.

"There were some good runs, good rucking, good tackling by the forwards and a good game overall," says Moskalyk.

"The boys put all their heart into the game and it showed by how they played today."

After conceding the hard-fought game to No.-1 ranked Seneca, the Condors are hoping to pull out a win over the current second-ranked team, the Mohawk Mountaineers, on Oct. 23 at Jacob Hespeler secondary school in Cambridge.

"The boys put all their heart into the game and it showed by how they played today."

*Geoff Moskalyk,
assistant coach*



(Photo by Kate Battler)

Mike Parkhill runs the ball against the Seneca Sting, Oct. 5, while teammate Matt Caudle gets taken down by a Seneca player. The first-ranked Sting won 30-8.

Alternative leagues falter during lockout

By BRENT GERHART

Although an NHL lockout is possible for an entire season, two upstart leagues hoped to fill the void, but have experienced more problems than anticipated.

The World Hockey Association (WHA) and Original Stars Hockey League (OSHL) planned to give hockey fans another way to enjoy the game, but financial problems have already ensued.

The WHA was hoping to begin a 60-game season, their first since folding in 1979, on Dec. 26. Instead, the league has been in turmoil and will likely not get on the ice this year.

On Sept. 30, league co-founder Nick Vaccaro attempted to transfer the WHA trademark rights to an unidentified purchaser.

A successful transaction may allow the WHA to operate this year's scheduled season, however, before it starts, there is another obstacle to overcome.

Currently there are only five teams confirmed for the WHA season, one short of the league minimum of six.

Originally, Quebec, Hamilton and Dallas were also supposed to field teams for the league, but all three were forced to fold while everything was coming together.

Quebec City's franchise, The Nordiks, pulled out on Aug. 27 when the team could not meet the WHA's financial requirements.

The Hamilton franchise did not have an arena to play home games, as they could not attain a secure lease with Copps Coliseum.

The Dallas Americans, co-owned by Toronto Maple Leafs goaltender, Ed Belfour, became the

most recent team to exit the league on Sept. 29 when Belfour and business partner, Rick Munro, decided they could not have a team in a league that may not exist this year.

Aside from the franchises backing out, another blow to the league was the rejection of a \$7.5-million US contract offer by 17-year-old hockey phenom, Sidney Crosby.

The last attempt at the WHA lasted from 1972 to 1979, and although it may have failed, it did allow teams such as the Edmonton Oilers, Hartford Whalers and Winnipeg Jets to merge with the rival NHL once it folded.

The WHA is not the only NHL alternative league to postpone their regular season. The new OSHL was supposed to begin Oct. 7.

However, on Sept. 21, OSHL president, Randy Gumbley, postponed all games after witnessing smaller than anticipated preseason crowds.

At the Sept. 17 preseason opener in Barrie, only 2,176 spectators watched Toronto beat Detroit 16-13, and then on Sept. 20, a few hundred fans saw Boston defeat Montreal 14-11, in Brampton, Ont.

Such poor attendance may be

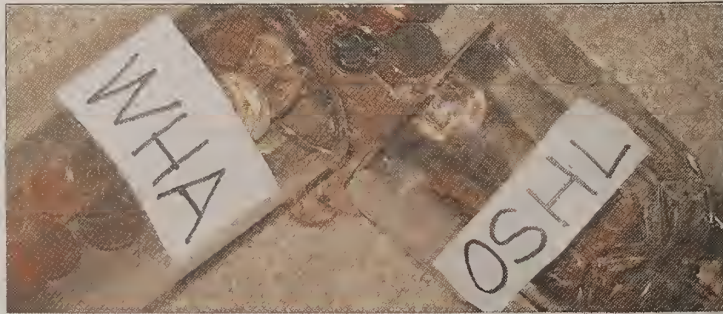
attributed to the high cost of tickets in relation to the talent pool of the league, since fans are paying \$34 to \$60 a ticket to see many average NHL players mixed on to six different teams.

On Oct. 9, an OSHL press release stated the league was to begin Oct. 14, and has lowered ticket prices to \$20.

The OSHL is offering a non-defensive four-on-four game of hockey with no two-line pass rule, no-touch icing, and line changes being made on-the-fly. Instead of power plays, opposing teams were to be awarded penalty shots.

NHL players committed to the OSHL include Dan Cloutier of the Vancouver Canucks, Scott Gomez of the New Jersey Devils, Mike Comrie of the Phoenix Coyotes, Ryan Smyth of the Edmonton Oilers and Calder trophy winner, Andrew Raycroft of the Boston Bruins, as well as 60 other NHL players.

Although both the WHA and OSHL hope to fill in during the locked-out NHL season, the OSHL may be the only place in North America where hockey fans can watch NHL stars.



(Photo by Brent Gerhart)

The WHA and OSHL ran into some financial problems before they hit the ice in their inaugural seasons.

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